

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming device management system in which a data communication device is connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices and a central control system is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the one of the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device, the image forming device management system comprising the one or the plurality of image forming devices, the data communication device, and the central control system, wherein

each image forming device comprises a power-source on/off control unit automatically turning on, when a communication request signal sent by the data communication device is received by the image forming device, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device concerned, and the power-source on/off control unit automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to the image forming device after a communication between the data communication device and the image forming device ends,

the data communication device comprises a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device concerned, so that any of a plurality of portions of the image forming device concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being the power-supplied portions, and

the power-source on/off control unit of the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only

the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned, for which power to the power-supplied portions was previously turned off,

wherein the power-supplied portion selection unit is configured to contain the power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and to transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal, and said internal parameter request signal includes a signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.

Claim 2 (Original): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured to automatically turn off the supplying of the power when the image forming device satisfies predetermined power-off conditions after the end of the communication between the data communication device and the image forming device.

Claim 3 (Original): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination.

Claim 4 (Original): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein the power-source on/off control unit of each image forming device is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication with the image forming device staying in an inactive condition, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination.

Claim 5 (Original): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein each image forming device further comprises a signal send-back unit sending, during a period from a time the supplying of the power started by the power-source on/off control unit to a time an initialization of the image forming device ends, one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal to the data communication device in response to an inquiry signal from the data communication device.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein each image forming device further comprises: a power-supplied portion setting unit setting, in advance, any of a plurality of portions of the image forming device as being power-supplied portions to which the power from the main power source is to be supplied, such that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns on, when the communication request signal is received by the image

forming device, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device; and

    a power-supplied portion display unit displaying, on an operation/display portion, power-supplied portion information that indicates which of the portions of the image forming device are set as being the power-supplied portions.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A data communication device for use in an image forming device management system, the data communication device being connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices and a central control system being connected to the data communication device via a communication network and providing a remote maintenance of the one or the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device,

    the data communication device comprising a request signal transmission unit transmitting a communication request signal to the image forming device concerned among the one or the plurality of image forming devices, and

    the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device concerned, wherein

    the data communication device comprises a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device concerned, so that any of a plurality of portions of the image forming device concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being

power-supplied portions to which the power from the main power source is to be supplied, and

the image forming device concerned automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned, for which power to the power-supplied portions was previously turned off,

wherein the power-supplied portion selection unit is configured to contain the power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and to transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal, and said internal parameter request signal includes a signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.

Claim 11 (Original): The data communication device according to claim 10, wherein the request signal transmission unit transmits a selecting signal, which designates the image forming device concerned as a destination device, to the one or the plurality of image forming devices.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The data communication device according to claim 10, wherein the data communication device comprises an inquiry signal transmission unit that transmits an inquiry signal to the image forming device concerned when one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal that is to be sent by the image forming device concerned

during a period from a time the image forming device concerned starts the supplying of the power to a time an initialization of the image forming device concerned ends, is not received by the data communication device.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An image forming device for use in an image forming device management system wherein a data communication device is connected to the image forming device and a central control system is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the image forming device through the communication network and the data communication device,

the image forming device comprising:

a power-source on/off control unit automatically turning on, when a communication request signal sent by the data communication device is received by the image forming device, a supplying of a power from a main power source to the image forming device, and the power-source on/off control unit automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to the image forming device after a communication between the data communication device and the image forming device ends;

the data communication device comprising a power-supplied portion selection unit transmitting a power supplied portion selection signal to the image forming device, so that any of a plurality of portions of the image forming device are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being the power supplied portions, wherein

the power-source on/off control unit of the image forming device automatically turning on, when the communication request signal is received by the image forming device, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device, for which power supplied to the power-supplied portions was previously turned off, and

the power-supplied portion selection unit is configured to contain the power-supplied portion selection signal in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and to transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal, and

said internal parameter request signal includes a signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.

Claim 16 (Original): The image forming device according to claim 15, wherein the power-source on/off control unit is configured to automatically turn off the supplying of the power when the image forming device satisfies predetermined power-off conditions after the end of the communication between the data communication device and the image forming device.

Claim 17 (Original): The image forming device according to claim 15, wherein the power-source on/off control unit is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the

determination.

Claim 18 (Original): The image forming device according to claim 15, wherein the power-source on/off control unit is configured such that the power-source on/off control unit determines that the image forming device satisfies power-off conditions, when a given time period has elapsed after the end of the communication with the image forming device staying in an inactive condition, and that the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns off the supplying of the power in accordance with the determination.

Claim 19 (Original): The image forming device according to claim 15, further comprising a signal send-back unit sending, during a period from a time the power-source on/off control unit starts the supplying of the power to a time an initialization of the image forming device ends, one of an idle-state signal and an inaccessibility signal to the data communication device in response to an inquiry signal from the data communication device.

Claim 20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 15, further comprising:

a power-supplied portion setting unit setting, in advance, any of a plurality of portion of the image forming device as being power-supplied portions to which the power from the main power source is to be supplied, wherein the power-source on/off control unit automatically turns on, when the communication request signal is received by the image

forming device, the supplying of the power from the main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device; and

    a power-supplied portion display unit displaying, on an operation/display portion, power-supplied portion information that indicates which of the portions of the image forming device are set as being the power-supplied portions.

Claim 23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): An image forming device management method in which a data communication device is connected to one or a plurality of image forming devices and a central control system is connected to the data communication device via a communication network and provides a remote maintenance of the one or the plurality of image forming devices through the communication network and the data communication device, comprising:

    transmitting a communication request signal from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned;

    transmitting a power-supplied portion selection signal from a portion selection unit to the image forming device concerned, so that any of a plurality of portions of the image forming devices concerned are selected, in advance, in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal as being power-supplied portions;

    automatically turning on, when the request signal is received by the image forming device concerned, a supplying of a power from a main power source to only the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned; and

    automatically turning off the supplying of the power from the main power source to the power-supplied portion of the image forming device concerned after a communication

between the data communication device and the image forming device concerned ends, for which power supplied to the power-supplied portions was previously turned off,

wherein the power-supplied portion selection signal is contained in an internal parameter request signal with respect to the image forming device concerned, and is configured to transmit the internal parameter request signal, containing the power-supplied portion selection signal, to the image forming device concerned, so that the image forming device concerned simultaneously receives both the internal parameter request signal and the power-supplied portion selection signal, and

said internal parameter request signal includes a signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein, after reading or updating of internal parameters of the image forming device is completed, a second power-supplied portion selection signal is transmitted from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned so that the supplying of the power from the main power source to all the portions of the image forming device concerned is forcefully inhibited.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The data communication device according to claim 10, wherein, after reading or updating of internal parameters of the image forming device is completed, a second power-supplied portion selection signal is transmitted from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned so that the supplying of the power from the main power source to all the portions of the image forming device concerned is forcefully inhibited.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 15, wherein, after reading or updating of internal parameters of the image forming device is completed, a second power-supplied portion selection signal is transmitted from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned so that the supplying of the power from the main power source to all the portions of the image forming device concerned is forcefully inhibited.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The image forming device management method according to claim 24, wherein, after reading or updating of internal parameters of the image forming device is completed, a second power-supplied portion selection signal is transmitted from the data communication device to the image forming device concerned so that the supplying of the power from the main power source to all the portions of the image forming device concerned is forcefully inhibited.

Claim 29 (New). The image forming device management system according to claim 1, wherein the image forming device concerned includes a personal interface configured to check, when the internal parameter request signal is received, the power-supplied portion selection signal contained in the internal parameter request signal, and the power-source on/off control unit is configured to turn on the supplying of the power from the main power source to the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal,

wherein the personal interface is further configured to check, after the power is supplied from the main power source to the power supplied portions of the image forming device concerned, the signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned included in the internal parameter request signal, and to transmit the signal that

requests information from the image forming device concerned to a controller, the controller configured to obtain information requested by the signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.

Claim 30 (New). The image forming device according to claim 15, wherein the image forming device concerned includes a personal interface configured to check, when the internal parameter request signal is received, the power-supplied portion selection signal contained in the internal parameter request signal, and the power-source on/off control unit is further configured to turn on the supplying of the power from the main power source to the power-supplied portions of the image forming device concerned in accordance with the power-supplied portion selection signal,

wherein the personal interface is further configured to check, after the power is supplied from the main power source to the power supplied portions of the image forming device concerned, the signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned included in the internal parameter request signal, and to transmit the signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned to a controller, the controller configured to obtain information requested by the signal that requests information from the image forming device concerned.